

FBC INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MINISTRY FRIENDSHIP PARTNER PROGRAM

Description & Qualifications

What is the Friendship Partner Program?

An opportunity for individuals and families to befriend an international student attending Denver metro college campuses.

Qualifications:

- A love for and personal relationship with the Lord and desire to demonstrate love with sensitivity
- A keen interest in the welfare of international students
- Ability to demonstrate sensitivity to people of other cultures
- A willingness to share regular activities with your student
- Patience and persistence in maintaining communication and meeting with your student
- To be an intentional learner
- To be accountable to the FBC Friendship Partner Task Force
- To take the commitment described above seriously

What is Expected?

We pray that your relationship with an international student will be a very rewarding and fulfilling experience for both of you. We are asking you to make the following commitment:

- Participate in the FBC Friendship Partners training (approximately 3 hours)
- Make initial contact with student within a few days of being matched. Make regular contact with your student in person once a month, and by email or phone once a week.
- Demonstrate respect for differences in your student's personal and spiritual beliefs
- Ask the Holy Spirit for opportunities to sensitively share about your relationship with Jesus Christ
- Participate with your student in FBC Friendship Partners group activities at least twice a year
- Maintain your relationship for at least one year (although we pray that it will last a lifetime)
- Respond in a timely manner when the FBC Task Force asks for a response



- Contact a FBC Task Force member if you encounter a problem with your student, including your inability to maintain regular contact as described above for whatever reason

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to build bridges of relationships with international students living in our community and to mobilize and equip Christians to carry the love of Jesus Christ to these students.

OBJECTIVES

In the pursuit of this mission our objectives are as follows

1. To help meet the real and felt needs of international students
2. To build relationships with international students characterized by genuine care and cross-cultural understanding
3. To sensitively and effectively share the Gospel of Christ with international students
4. To disciple new (international student) believers and prepare them for return to their home country *(We will pursue objectives 1-4 through staff involvement and by mobilizing and equipping volunteers.)*
5. To provide locally accessible opportunities for Christians to experience the excitement and satisfaction of involvement in cross-cultural outreach
6. To mobilize and equip our Friendship Partners for cross-cultural outreach by training and providing support to them
7. To build relationships of mutual trust and respect with international students on the Denver metro college campuses
8. To effectively partner with other organizations seeking to achieve these same objectives

Our VISION is...

1. That every member of Foothills Bible Church would have an opportunity to impact the world through their friendship with international students in the Denver metro area.
2. Every international student in the Denver metro area would experience and understand the love of Jesus Christ from a Foothills Bible Church Friendship Partner.



Our VALUES are...

Prayer & Reliance on the Holy Spirit: We believe God has a plan to build His kingdom worldwide, and our relationship with Him is of utmost importance as we cooperate with His plan. Through prayer, we praise and worship Him, seek His direction, call on Him to intervene in natural and supernatural ways and show our dependence on Him for the results. Prayer is at the front-line of God's work and critical to the expansion of His Kingdom.

God's Word: We believe that the Bible provides intent, motivation and strategy for building God's Kingdom worldwide. Therefore, the goals, strategies and tactics of our ministry to international students are based on the Scriptures, and the truth of Scripture will always take precedence over the dictates of culture wherever they are in conflict.

Compassion for the Lost: We believe all people are born estranged from God and condemned by their sin. Only those who put their faith in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ for their sin will become children of God and heirs of eternal life. We want all we do for international students to be motivated by this reality. Our hope is that each student comes into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Hospitality: We believe that every international student deserves dignity and respect. It begins with showing students our eagerness in making their experience in our community as enjoyable as possible. Through this, we demonstrate God's love to the students, build meaningful relationships and earn their trust as God provides the opportunity to introduce them to our Lord and Savior.

Inclusiveness: We believe that although some may have an affinity to a particular culture, FBC Friendship Partners are committed to work with all cultures of people groups that God brings our way.

Community: We believe it is within the context of a supportive and encouraging community that all people are best able to learn and grow as individuals. Therefore, we desire to build a community among the volunteers, FBC Task Force and Friendship Partners. We ask God to use our acts of love and fellowship with one another to draw believer and non-believer alike into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. As an expression of our community, we will intentionally celebrate God's work in and among us as we minister together.

Excellence in Ministry: We believe that God entrusted sufficient resources to the Church to complete the Great Commission. We strive to use these resources in a responsible, effective manner and commit our work for the Lord with integrity, accountability and excellence.

Partnership: We believe that we honor Christ as we seek to coordinate the use of our resources in partnership with other organizations that share our desire to reach international students with the love of Christ.

Statement of Faith

The sole basis of our beliefs is the Bible, God's infallible written Word, the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. We believe that it was uniquely, verbally and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit and that it was written without error (inerrant) in the original manuscripts. It is the supreme and final authority in all matters on which it speaks.

We accept those areas of doctrinal teaching on which, historically, there has been general agreement among all true Christians. Because of the specialized calling of our movement, we desire to allow for freedom of conviction on other doctrinal matters, provided that any interpretation is based upon the Bible alone, and that no such interpretation shall become an issue which hinders the ministry to which God has called us.

1. There is one true God, eternally existing in three persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - each of whom possesses equally all the attributes of Deity and the characteristics of personality.
2. Jesus Christ is God, the living Word, who became flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. Hence, He is perfect Deity and true humanity united in one person forever.
3. He lived a sinless life and voluntarily atoned for the sins of men by dying on the cross as their substitute, thus satisfying divine justice and accomplishing salvation for all who trust in Him alone.
4. He rose from the dead in the same body, though glorified, in which He lived and died.
5. He ascended bodily into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Father, where He, the only mediator between God and man, continually makes intercession for His own.
6. Man was originally created in the image of God. He sinned by disobeying God; thus, he was alienated from his Creator. That historic fall brought all mankind under divine condemnation.
7. Man's nature is corrupted, and he is thus totally unable to please God. Every man is in need of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
8. The salvation of man is wholly a work of God's free grace and is not the work, in whole or in part, of human works or goodness or religious ceremony. God imputes His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, and thereby justified them in His sight.
9. It is the privilege of all who are born again of the Spirit to be assured of their salvation from the very moment in which they trust Christ as their Savior. This assurance is not based upon any kind of human merit, but is produced by the witness of the Holy Spirit, who confirms in the believer the testimony of God in His written word.
10. The Holy Spirit has come into the world to reveal and glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to men. He convicts and draws sinners to Christ, imparts new life to them, continually indwells them from the moment of spiritual birth and seals them until the day of redemption. His fullness, power and control are appropriated in the believer's life by faith.
11. Every believer is called to live so in the power of the indwelling Spirit that he will not fulfill the lust of the flesh but will bear fruit to the glory of God.
12. Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, His Body, which is composed of all men, living and dead, who have been joined to Him through saving faith.
13. God admonishes His people to assemble together regularly for worship, for participation in ordinances, for edification through the Scriptures and for mutual encouragement.
14. At physical death the believer enters immediately into eternal, conscious fellowship with the Lord and awaits the resurrection of his body to everlasting glory and blessing.
15. At physical death the unbeliever enters immediately into eternal, conscious separation from the Lord and awaits the resurrection of his body to everlasting judgment and condemnation.
16. Jesus Christ will come again to the earth - personally, visibly and bodily - to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.
17. The Lord Jesus Christ commanded all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to disciple men of every nation. The fulfillment of that Great Commission requires that all worldly and personal ambitions be subordinated to a total commitment to "Him who loved us and gave Himself for us."

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Frequently Asked Questions

- How much will this cost financially?
The training is free with the option of buying a supplemental book for \$10. We always encourage Friendship Partners to simply include your student in your normal activities, and not necessarily create new activities that would cost extra time or money. You already do things during the month in which an international student would love to participate (dinner at home, dinner out, children's sports activities, shopping, etc.). Generally, if there is an expense, the student pays his or her own way, but should know this up front. Involve your student in things that are already going on in your life.
- What if we cannot get in contact with our student?
We will be providing you, the Friendship Partner, with all of the contact information you need to contact your student (email, phone, cell phone, and address). The student will be anticipating your contact. There is always an issue with scheduling because of the student's busy schedule, but persistence pays off. If all else fails, the Task Force may need to intervene to insure that the student is still committed to the program.
- What if the student and the Friendship Partner (FP) do not connect (no affinity)?
After a proven track record of contacts and attempts to build a relationship doesn't work out, the Task Force will assist in evaluating the reasons and providing alternative matches for both the student and the FP.
- What if life circumstances change for the FP?
If something does come up with a FP, which makes it impossible to continue with the partnership, the Task Force would need to be notified ASAP. We would need to meet with the FP to assess the situation and evaluate the partnership on a case by case basis.
- When does my commitment to being an FP end?
We are asking every FP to be committed to being a partner for 1 year from the time of being matched with a student. Our desire is to see friendships created which take on a life of their own and will last for a lifetime and governed by the "Friendship Partner Program."
- Will I be expected to provide housing and/or transportation?
The students will all have their own housing. However, there are students who are here without transportation and in those cases, the partner will need to provide transportation. In addition, providing transportation for the student's personal needs can be a great ministry to the student and would meet the once-a-month contact requirement.

- How will I know if I will be a Friendship Partner?
Once the application is received and the interview process is completed, you will be notified of your acceptance to the program and can begin your training. At the completion of the training, you are a Friendship Partner and you will be eligible to receive a student and his or her information. The Task Force will be in communication with you during the process.
- Can the whole family be involved?
Yes! Both individuals and families are welcome to be a part of the ministry. It is wonderful if the entire family gets involved. Most students love kids. They miss their families back home and are thrilled to be a part of someone's life in the U.S.

Questions or More Information

Contact Marilyn at 303-978-1580 or marilyndallet@netzero.net

OR

Contact Susan at 303-475-4094 or skiwebster1626@netzero.com

OR

Contact Jim at 303-697-7083 or jimor@earthlink.net



**FBC Friendship Partner
Application**

Date: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Best day and time to call: _____ (application will be followed up
with a 15-20 minute phone interview)

Email(s): _____

Birthday (mm/dd/yy): ____/____/____ Marital Status (circle one): Single Married Divorced

Spouse: _____ Years Married: _____

Will your spouse be active in Friendship Partners ministry with you? _____
(If yes, please fill out individual applications)

Children at home:

Name: _____ Birthday: ____/____/____

Name: _____ Birthday: ____/____/____

Name: _____ Birthday: ____/____/____

Name: _____ Birthday: ____/____/____

Do you have any pets? If yes, what kind? _____

Occupation(s): _____

Do you know any foreign languages? _____ If so, which ones? _____

Have you traveled overseas? _____ To which countries? _____

Do you have an ethnic or country preference for student partners? _____





Do you have a gender preference for your student partner? M F Either

FBC Friendship Partner Application (part two)

Identify your three favorite ways of spending free time (e.g., hobbies, interests, etc.):

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Name three of your strengths:

Name three of your weaknesses:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1) _____ | 1) _____ |
| 2) _____ | 2) _____ |
| 3) _____ | 3) _____ |

Why would you like to be involved in this ministry? _____

List any type of Christian work or volunteer experience: _____

Tell us about any cross-cultural experiences you have had: _____

List any information or other experiences relevant to a volunteer position as FBC Friendship Partner program: (e.g., special training, leadership) _____

Home Church: _____ Pastor: _____ Phone: _____

Are you a member: _____

List two more references (other than family):

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Position: _____



Name: _____ Phone: _____ Position: _____

FBC Friendship Partner Application (part three)

List three events/accomplishments in your life which you have found fulfilling. **Exclude** commitment to Christ, marriage, having children, graduating from college. *Examples: 1). I took care of our horse for one summer when I was 10. 2). I manage a chain of grocery stores and have for the last four years. 3). I taught an art class to a group of sixth graders.*

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Please describe how you came to Christ and what has been your growth experience with God since then (three paragraphs or less, if you need more space please attach a piece of paper):





Are you engaged in any ongoing behaviors which are contrary to Biblical teaching? _____

Are you in agreement with the statement of faith? If no, please explain: _____

I affirm that the information contained on this application is true.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return filled out application to the Missions Department at FBC:

- Mail: Foothills Bible Church
6100 S. Devinney Way
Littleton, CO 80127
attn. Joyce Feil
- Hand deliver to front desk at FBC, attn. Joyce Feil

